



State of Utah

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For 9:00 a.m. Release

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**UTAH'S EMPLOYMENT SUMMARY: AUGUST 2011**

Statistics generated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Washington, D.C., derived from monthly employer and household surveys.

SALT LAKE CITY—Utah's nonfarm wage and salaried job count for August 2011 expanded by 2.9 percent compared to August 2010. This is a 12-month increase of 34,400 jobs, and raises total wage and salary employment to 1,212,500.

The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate, Utah's other primary indicator of current labor market conditions also generated by BLS, registered 7.6 percent. Last month the rate was 7.5 percent, and a year ago the state's rate was 7.6 percent. Approximately 102,000 Utahns are considered unemployed. The United States unemployment rate, compared to last month, is unchanged at 9.1 percent.

The Utah employment environment is expanding. That is welcome news considering the negative impact the state had from the recession and that employment levels do need to bounce back. Workforce Services believes the current BLS-estimated 2.9-percent employment growth rate will be revised downward when the full gambit of employment data becomes available several months from now. But growth is growth, whether 2.9 percent or slightly lower. The national employment picture is very tenuous right now, so Utah's employment gains are most welcome and places the state in a stronger position to adjust if the national economy were to stumble.

Yet there is still underlying repair needed for the Utah economy. Many people have been relegated to the labor-force sidelines, and those numbers continue to increase. The employment-to-population (E/P) ratio measures those 16 years and older (defined as the potential labor force population) who are employed as a percent of all those 16 years and older. If all had a job the ratio would be 100 percent. But not all want a job, so the ratio is always something lower. Utah's E/P high point was in 2007 at 70.5 percent. But that ratio has fallen steadily during the recession, and continues to slip, illustrating that the pool of idle workers continues to grow, even with Utah job gains over the past year. August's E/P ratio dropped to 60.8 percent, the lowest E/P ratio since 1979. A new pool of entrants graduated into the labor force in June, and their surging impact upon the economy is evidenced by a three percentage-point increase in Utah's unemployment rate over the past three months.

One industry doing well in Utah is oil and gas. High energy prices stimulate activity, and Uintah (natural gas) and Duchesne (oil) counties generally benefit from this action. Employment climbs in those counties, but the overall state benefits through increased revenues and royalty payments. Around 800 jobs have materialized in this industry over the past 12 months.

**August 2011**  
**Labor Market Indicators**

**Utah**  
**Employment % Change: 2.9%**  
**Employment # Change: 34,400**  
**Unemployment Rate: 7.6%**

**United States**  
**Employment Change: 1.0%**  
**Unemployment Rate: 9.1%**

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Construction is on a better footing in Utah than seen for several years. Approximately 500 jobs have been added over the past year, a welcome change from what seemed like an endless stream of losses over the prior four years. All of these gains are coming from heavy and civil engineering projects, not from home building or commercial activities. Last month's initial estimate of 2,400 year-over-year job gains has been revised down to 1,400.

Manufacturing is one industry where the employment survey's estimates appear to be aggressive. The current estimate is for 5,800 jobs added over the past year, a growth rate of 5.2 percent, which would be a very robust rebound. This is one industry where Workforce Services believes data revisions will eventually reveal a more moderate growth rate.

The trade and transportation sector is another industry where the survey's employment gains might be optimistic. Gains of 7,600 jobs over the past 12 months are quite aggressive, and the survey continues to grow these estimates. Hopefully these estimates will turn into reality when the revised data comes in. Growth levels this high imply that consumers are again feeling good about their situations and are spending freely. Until further evidence comes in, it is natural to be cautious when evaluating this estimated growth given the current environment.

The professional and business services sector is the most robust Utah industry, adding over 11,200 new jobs over the past year. There is also some question about the veracity of these gains. There is evidence that the help-supply industries (identified as employment services) are doling out workers throughout the industry spectrum, and that is a good indication that the economy is moving forward once again. The amount of growth estimated from the survey will probably be scaled back a bit when more comprehensive data becomes available.

The education and healthcare sector remains a growing Utah industry, adding 2,200 new jobs over the past 12 months. This sector has been impacted by this recession though; it has grown around 4-percent per year over the past 15 years, even during the dot.com downturn. This sector even maintained this high growth during the first two years of the current recession. But over the past year gains here have been losing some of their steam. It is not expected to transform into a job-losing industry—anything but. However, the recession's lingering effects have even had their influence on this sector—a sector driven more by local demographic demand than most other industries.

The leisure and hospitality sector grew by 4,800 positions over the past 12 months.

Government employment is down 1,100 positions this August in relation to last August. The federal government remains the branch accounting for this decline, although it is unclear as to where these losses are occurring.

**\* Utah's September employment information will be released at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 20, 2011.**

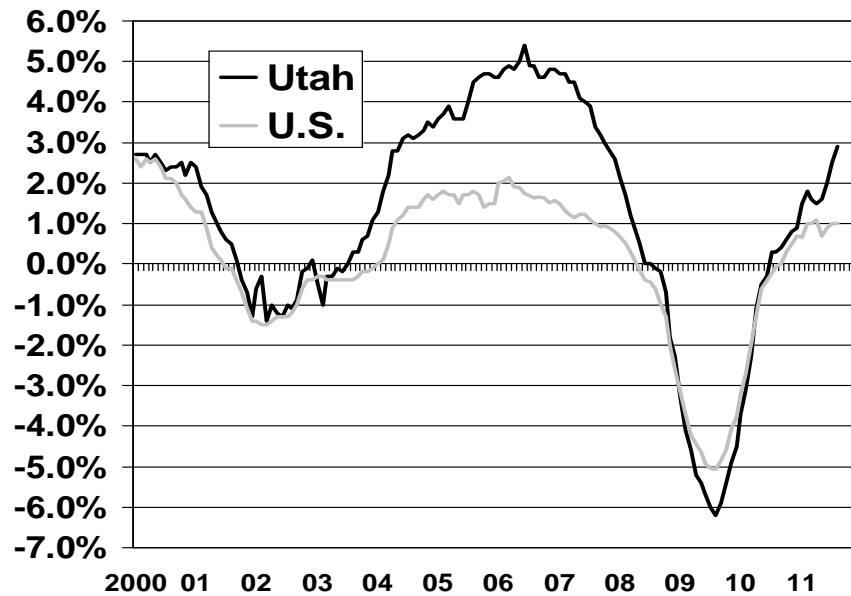
**\* County unemployment rates for August will be posted on or shortly after September 27 at <http://jobs.utah.gov/opencms/wi/pubs/une/season.pdf>**

## Utah Nonagricultural Jobs by Industry and Components of the Labor Force

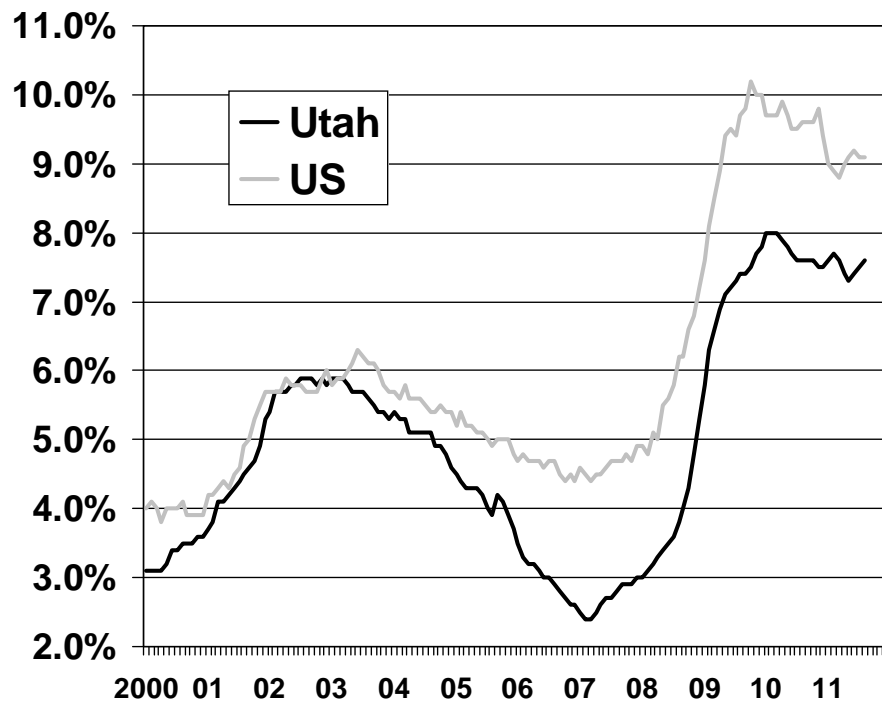
Numbers are in thousands	Aug(p) 2011	Aug[r] 2010	Percentage Change	July(r) 2011	July[r] 2010	Percentage Change
<b>CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE (seasonally-adjusted)</b>	<b>1,345.4</b>	<b>1,362.8</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>1,349.8</b>	<b>1,365.3</b>	<b>-1.1</b>
Employed	1,243.4	1,259.1	-1.2	1,248.4	1,261.0	-1.0
Unemployed	102.0	103.7	-1.6	101.4	104.3	-2.8
Unemployment Rate	7.6	7.6		7.5	7.6	
<b>NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT (Thousands)</b>	<b>1,212.5</b>	<b>1,178.1</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>1,200.3</b>	<b>1,171.1</b>	<b>2.5</b>
Not seasonally-adjusted						
<b>GOODS PRODUCING</b>	<b>198.7</b>	<b>191.6</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>196.8</b>	<b>189.9</b>	<b>3.6</b>
Natural Resources, and Mining	11.5	10.7	7.5	11.4	10.6	8.4
Construction	69.2	68.7	0.6	68.9	67.5	2.0
Construction of Buildings	12.3	12.7	-3.4	12.0	12.8	-6.5
Heavy and Civil Engineering	12.7	10.2	24.0	12.2	9.6	27.0
Specialty Trade Contractors	44.2	45.8	-3.4	44.8	45.1	-0.8
Manufacturing	118.0	112.2	5.2	116.5	111.8	4.1
Durable Goods	77.1	72.3	6.6	76.0	72.1	5.4
Primary and Fabricated Metals	15.3	14.9	3.2	15.3	14.9	2.7
Computer and Electronic Products	14.3	13.4	6.6	14.1	13.3	5.5
Transportation and Equipment Manufacturing	10.6	11.0	-3.3	10.5	11.0	-3.7
Non-Durable Goods	40.9	39.9	2.5	40.4	39.7	1.7
<b>SERVICES PROVIDING</b>	<b>1,013.8</b>	<b>986.4</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>1,003.5</b>	<b>981.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	237.5	229.9	3.3	235.2	228.6	2.9
Wholesale Trade	45.4	44.2	2.7	44.6	44.2	1.0
Retail Trade	142.4	138.3	3.0	141.9	137.4	3.3
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	16.1	16.1	0.1	16.0	16.1	-0.1
Food and Beverage Stores	22.8	22.8	0.0	22.8	22.7	0.6
General Merchandise Stores	29.4	28.7	2.5	29.3	28.6	2.5
Transportation and Utilities	49.6	47.4	4.7	48.6	47.0	3.3
Utilities	4.1	4.1	1.4	4.1	4.1	1.0
Transportation & Warehousing	45.5	43.3	5.0	44.5	42.9	3.6
Air Transportation	6.8	6.5	4.0	6.8	6.5	4.5
Truck Transportation	18.5	18.0	2.6	18.2	17.7	2.7
Information	30.6	29.0	5.5	30.3	29.4	3.2
Publishing Industries	8.9	9.0	-0.7	8.9	9.0	-1.1
Motion Picture and Sound Recording	3.7	3.7	-0.1	3.7	4.0	-6.7
Telecommunications	4.6	4.7	-1.6	4.6	4.7	-3.0
Internet Service Providers	7.4	6.7	11.4	7.4	6.7	10.9
Financial Activities	68.6	67.8	1.1	68.0	67.6	0.6
Finance and Insurance	52.4	51.5	1.7	51.9	51.4	1.1
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	16.2	16.3	-0.8	16.1	16.2	-1.2
Professional and Business Services	166.2	155.0	7.3	163.9	155.5	5.4
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	71.2	64.9	9.8	70.4	64.7	8.9
Architectural, Engineering, and Related	12.5	12.1	3.3	12.4	12.0	3.2
Computer Systems Design and Related	16.6	15.0	10.7	16.5	14.9	10.9
Management of Companies and Enterprises	18.2	18.7	-3.0	18.1	18.7	-2.8
Administration & Support						
& Waste Management & Remediation	76.8	71.3	7.7	75.3	72.2	4.4
Employment Services	22.0	20.1	9.6	20.8	19.5	7.0
Business Support Services	16.3	16.1	1.0	16.3	17.3	-5.9
Education and Health Services	153.9	151.7	1.5	152.4	150.6	1.2
Educational Services	32.0	31.7	0.9	31.1	30.7	1.3
Health Services and Social Assistance	121.9	120.0	1.6	121.3	119.9	1.2
Ambulatory Health Care Services	50.2	49.7	1.1	49.9	49.3	1.2
Hospitals	32.3	31.8	1.7	32.2	32.0	0.8
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	22.7	22.2	2.2	22.5	22.2	1.5
Social Assistance	16.7	16.3	2.4	16.6	16.3	1.4
Leisure and Hospitality	118.6	113.8	4.2	117.9	113.3	4.0
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	19.0	18.2	4.2	19.2	18.5	3.4
Accommodation and Food Services	99.6	95.6	4.3	98.7	94.8	4.2
Accommodation	18.1	17.8	2.2	18.0	17.7	2.0
Food Services and Drinking Places	81.5	77.8	4.7	80.7	77.1	4.7
Other Services	34.7	34.4	0.7	36.3	34.7	4.5
Government	203.8	204.9	-0.5	199.5	201.4	-0.9
Federal Government	36.4	38.2	-4.6	36.8	39.3	-6.4
Federal Defense	16.5	17.0	-2.7	16.6	17.0	-2.4
Other Federal Government	19.9	21.2	-6.1	20.2	22.3	-9.5
State Government	62.5	62.4	0.3	61.6	61.2	0.6
State Schools	34.3	34.7	-1.4	33.3	33.7	-1.0
Other State Government	28.3	27.6	2.3	28.2	27.5	2.6
Local Government	104.8	104.4	0.4	101.2	100.9	0.2
Local Education	52.1	52.5	-0.8	49.7	49.1	1.1
Other Local Government	52.8	51.9	1.8	51.5	51.8	-0.6

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics p = preliminary r = revised September 15, 2011

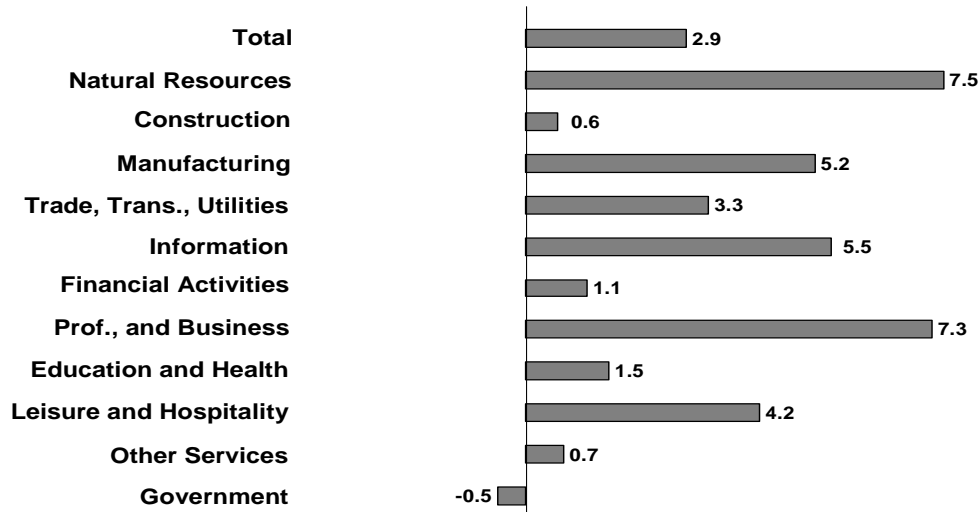
## Year-Over Percent Change in Nonfarm Jobs



## Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

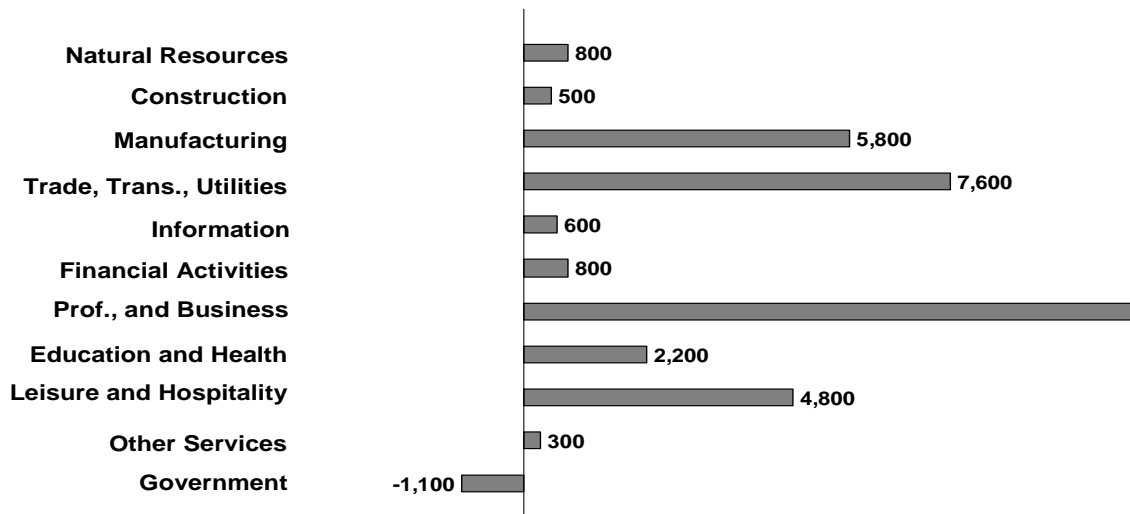


## Utah Nonfarm Industry Profile (Percent Change) August 2010 - 2011



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## Utah Nonfarm Industry Profile (Numeric Change) August 2010 - 2011



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

## NONFARM EMPLOYMENT IN UTAH'S COUNTIES

	August 2011 <i>Estimate</i>	August 2010 <i>Actual</i>	Percent Change	July 2011 <i>Estimate</i>	June 2011 <i>Estimate</i>
BEAVER	2,011	1,963	2.4	1,976	2,119
BOX ELDER	16,543	17,043	-2.9	16,614	17,224
CACHE	48,792	47,933	1.8	47,567	49,785
CARBON	9,275	9,322	-0.5	9,199	9,513
DAGGETT	494	492	0.4	499	502
DAVIS	105,370	101,768	3.5	104,959	106,458
DUCHESNE	7,789	7,372	5.7	7,651	7,975
EMERY	3,509	3,716	-5.6	3,481	3,568
GARFIELD	2,848	2,821	1.0	2,882	2,889
GRAND	5,097	4,996	2.0	5,216	5,249
IRON	14,177	13,979	1.4	14,188	14,710
JUAB	3,005	3,086	-2.6	2,984	3,189
KANE	3,373	3,352	0.6	3,306	3,410
MILLARD	4,133	4,021	2.8	4,022	4,093
MORGAN	1,824	1,823	0.1	1,793	1,883
PIUTE	245	265	-7.7	240	272
RICH	832	848	-1.9	851	792
SALT LAKE	585,521	570,743	2.6	582,702	582,970
SAN JUAN	4,444	4,411	0.8	4,295	4,431
SANPETE	6,082	6,199	-1.9	5,943	6,840
SEVIER	8,126	7,981	1.8	8,109	8,101
SUMMIT	20,358	19,334	5.3	20,106	19,665
TOOELE	16,142	15,801	2.2	15,998	15,846
UINTAH	13,961	13,218	5.6	13,948	14,494
UTAH	177,986	172,692	3.1	174,418	177,911
WASATCH	5,780	5,649	2.3	5,770	6,159
WASHINGTON	46,048	46,172	-0.3	46,154	46,776
WAYNE	1,141	1,195	-4.5	1,162	1,150
WEBER	90,463	89,723	0.8	90,371	91,230

Note: Numbers have been left unrounded for convenience rather than to denote accuracy.

Note: Employment numbers are not seasonally adjusted. Therefore, comparisons of employment levels from one month to the next should not be used as job creation/loss estimates between those months. Seasonal factors could be the reason. For example, employment levels in September are usually higher than in August, as school employment resumes.

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services, Workforce Research and Analysis, 9/15/11